

SPEAKS FOR THE OLD "CAUSE,"

"For That Old Cause In Which I Was From My Youth Engaged!"

Gov. Edgerton, Replying to Senator Hanna, Tells Why He Will Not Attend the Philadelphia Convention.

Shows How the Republicanism of "the Heroic Age of the Party" Differs From the Republicanism of Today.

Deplores the Party's Intolerant Attitude Toward Honest Criticism and Discussion.

Ex. Gov. Sidney Edgerton, one of the 14 survivors of the memorable Republican conventions of 1856 which founded the Republican party, has mailed an answer to the invitation sent to him to attend the Republican convention in Philadelphia next week.

In his letter to Sen. M. A. Hanna, who mailed the invitation, Gov. Edgerton sets forth comparative views of Republican policy in the day of Lincoln and the day of Hanna. He gives his reasons for refusing to accept the invitation to occupy a place of honor on the platform in an uncertain manner. The invitation from Sen. Hanna was as follows:

Senator Hanna's Invitation.

Headquarters Republican National Committee, N. W. Cor. 14 and G Sts. Washington, D. C. June 2, 1900.

Hon. Sidney Edgerton, Akron, O.

Dear Sir: The Republican National Committee presents its compliments and congratulations to you as one of the few Republicans now living, who participated in the Republican Conventions of 1856 at Pittsburgh and Philadelphia; and on behalf of the delegates to the coming Republican National Convention, extends to you and to your surviving associates in those historic events, a cordial invitation to be present at, and occupy a seat upon the platform of, the convention which meets on the 19th day of June 1900 in the city of Philadelphia.

Nearly half a century has elapsed since you participated in laying the foundation of the Republican party, you have witnessed its magnificent growth, from a popular vote of 1,341,264 and 114 electoral votes cast for Fremont in 1856, to a popular vote of 7,104,770 and 271 electoral votes for McKinley in 1896; and, therefore, the Republicans of today, profoundly appreciating the work of yourself and other pioneers of our party, will feel honored by your distinguished presence, and we assure you a most cordial welcome.

With considerations of high esteem Very truly yours,

M. A. HANNA, Chairman.

CHAS. DICK, Secretary.

Governor Edgerton's Reply.

Gov. Edgerton's answer, which was mailed to the Senator in due season is printed in full below:

Akron, O., June 15, 1900.

My Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of the second inst., in which you invite me to be present at the convention to be held in Philadelphia on Tuesday next. For your courtesy in extending to me this invitation, I am extremely obliged to you. The thoughtfulness which inspired it—knowing, as you do, how little there is in common between the principles held by me and the forced-ordained work of the occasion referred to, and how little you will have for such as I am, argues a disinterestedness on your part which, being rare in this day, is appreciated accordingly.

You do no more than justice to the conventions held at Pittsburgh and Philadelphia in 1856, by characterizing them in your letters as "historic events." They truly were so; and to have been concerned in them is to me a source of pride and satisfaction.

I am indeed very unequal to the task to which you have invited me; for I am borne down by the weight of many years and am laboring under great infirmities of body. Nevertheless, I should feel it my duty to hazard the undertaking, if my journey thither and my presence there could at all promote the keeping, by the coming convention, of the ancient faith of the Republican party, or the maintenance of its ancestral honor. What that convention will do is absolutely known to yourself, and is substantially known to me. From this knowledge I am persuaded that the condition of my attendance, above referred to, must fail—HAS failed, in advance, and the condition failing, my presence must fail also.

I purpose stating briefly some of the facts which show that the doctrines to be advocated, the policies to be endorsed, and the plans to be pursued by your convention

posited of those which obtained in the convention of 1856; the only community between them is that of place and party name.

The Philadelphia convention of 1856 was made up of men who had convictions of political right and duty and the courage of them. And they came together for conference and comparison of views, to the end that by wise and tolerant concert of political effort the welfare of the people might be promoted and the great cause of human liberty advanced. The Philadelphia convention of 1896 has, for its sole work, to ratify and register a political receipt set forth by one man, having for its purpose to perpetuate in power an Administration which has wholly disregarded the interests of the masses.

The Pittsburgh convention of 1856 was held on the birthday of Washington, and the Philadelphia convention of that year was called for the seventeenth of June, the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill—the significance of which dates will suggest itself to you. YOUR convention will endorse and eulogize, with fulsome praise, a policy which has turned its back upon the last counsel of Washington to his people and which is an organized snarl at the principles for which he fought, and will commend an Administration which, for its supple lackeying and truckling subservience to Great Britain has not its match in history; and this too by a President whose principal political stock in trade a generation past has been economic wrongs suffered at the hands of this hereditary industrial enemy of ours.

The convention held in Philadelphia in 1856 addressed its declaration of doctrine to those who were "in favor of restoring the active government to the principles of Washington and Jefferson," and it accordingly "Resolved that the maintenance of the principle enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, and embodied in the Federal constitution, is essential to the preservation of our Republican institutions." And again it "Resolved that with our Republican fathers we hold it to be a self-evident truth that all men are endowed with the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that the primary object and ulterior design of our federal government were to secure these rights to all persons within its exclusive jurisdiction."

The Philadelphia convention of this year will be made up of men in whose view "the principles of Washington and Jefferson" are avowedly antiquated and far out of date,—useful only in the orations of the Fourth of July or the warmed-over porch platitudes of a political campaign; and it will in terms countenance a policy which denies to ten millions of "persons within our exclusive jurisdiction" the "inalienable rights" which in its earlier day the Republican party thus guaranteed, a policy, which avows its purpose of governing subjects peoples without their consent, outside of constitutional principles and safe guards, at the caprice of irresponsible appointees, or a venal majority in Congress, and in flagrant and derisive violation of the "principles of Washington and Jefferson" and those "pronounced in the Declaration of Independence, and embodied in the Federal constitution." It will vociferously uphold and applaud the doings of an administration which, doubling in its own track within a space of sixty days, has broken faith with an innocent and confiding people who by the hazards of war had passed under its jurisdiction,—an act rightly characterized by itself as the breach of "a plain duty," at the command of the conscienceless and mercenary appetite for plunder possessed by those by whom that Administration was itself created, and which thus is constrained to remember its creator. It will endorse a policy which thus lawlessly put in motion has already begun to bear the fruits of lawlessness in the population being perpetrated by our officials upon those whom it appears we rescued from one set of brigands only to turn loose another upon them, and it will denounce the individual thieves, in apparent forgetfulness that the thievery is but the symptom and necessary sequence of an irresponsible despotism. For a government of peoples outside of constitutional sanctions is, upon any rational Republican theory, but a despotism; and it is so not the less because it is promised to be "benevolently" and

for the good of the governed; the fact that they ARE governed without their consent puts the policy at war with the Republican doctrine of 1856. And so, being irresponsible at its source, the principle of irresponsibility permeates the entire fabric, and stealing and spoliation by sub-ordinates follow as night succeeds the day. Shortly before the convention of 1856, a man of some prominence then and later, said: "When the white man governs himself, that is self-government; but when he governs himself and also governs another man, that is more than self-government—that is despotism."

"What I do say is, that no man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent. * * * Little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave, we have been giving up the old for the new faith. Near eighty years ago we began by declaring that all men are created equal; but now from that beginning we have run down to the other declaration that for some men to enslave others is a 'sacred right of self-government.' These principles cannot stand together. They are as opposite as God and mammon."

The utterer of these words was Abraham Lincoln. Was he a Republican, or not? Measured by the standard of 1856, plainly he was. Judged by the test which will govern the Philadelphia convention of this year, just as plainly he was not.

The Philadelphia convention of 1856 declared in its platform that it was "both the right and the imperative duty of Congress to prohibit in the

"dishonest" Mexican dollar! It is a little curious to see how a government can make a treaty with one of its own subjects—for you will perceive that our country, under the "benevolent" extra-constitutional doctrine, has progressed far enough to have subjects as well as citizens; but let that pass. You will claim, and I do not deny, that the Sultan's territory is "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States. Upon the morality, national or otherwise, of the transaction, I make no comment. But for the party which by blood and iron imbedded the Thirteenth amendment in our organic law, to sanction it, seems to me monstrous; a party sacrifice; a political blasphemy. The same organization too, thus to be commended at Philadelphia in the polygamy line, strains at the gnat (Roberts), and swallows the camel (the Sultan of Sulu). Holy writ tells us what the proper name of people who do this thing is: I cannot improve its definition. And the party has annexed Hawaii also,—bringing over, I suppose, its laws with it. By Hawaiian law coolie contract labor is permitted and sanctioned. By that law such contracts for "involuntary servitude" may be specifically enforced in the courts, now under our jurisdiction, or their violation may be corporally punished by the lash. And this, I understand, in fact done. A clergyman lands on our shores under an agreement to break the Bread of Life to the people of Brooklyn. Upon this fact becoming known he is hustled back to his own land, because he is a violator of the contract labor law. Here we have another gnat strained at, and another camel swallowed. But the one is at the behest of the sugar barons of Hawaii; the other is only a poor person who has nothing but God's word to deal in. The Philadelphia convention of next week will commend the annexation of Hawaii, and—if it says anything on the subject, it will, with equalunction, denounce the wicked contracts

as to shock the political moral sense of any reasonable creature endowed with a conscience and an appreciation of party fitness.

The Philadelphia convention of 1856 strenuously advocated the construction of a highway to the Pacific, over our own territory, and of course under our own control, and to be defended, upon occasion, with the jealous care inherent in a free people, against interference, restraint, guardianship or espionage by any other power whatsoever.

The convention of 1900 will be expected to, and so will, loudly endorse the foreign policy of the Administration which has been so far recent to all our traditions of national independence of action and American manhood as to negotiate, and ask the Senate to ratify, a treaty whereby, at a time when Congress has made provision for a waterway, designed also to bring us nearer to our Pacific possessions, over territory conceded to us by an independent power, and hence as much ours as if it were passing over one of our own water-sheds, we obligate ourselves to Great Britain never to fortify the canal thus to be built with our own means, on territory not at all under her jurisdiction,—thus surrendering to her navy, in advance, in time of war, a potential title to our own property.

And the same Administration has refused to allow the bill for the construction of the canal to come to a vote in the Senate, in order that time may be gained and the requisite pressure brought to bear upon Legislators to consummate this abject funkism, which has become characteristic of our State department, as now occupied and administered. To a Republican of 1856 this fawning sycophancy to the

"Take Time by The Forelock."

Don't wait until sickness overtakes you. When that tired feeling, the first rheumatic pain, the first warning of impure blood are manifest, take Hood's Sarsaparilla and you will rescue your health and probably save a serious sickness. Be sure to get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

out for the Irish vote, and when the accredited representatives of the Transvaal government reached the shores of a land,—as they supposed of liberty, they were at the State Department treated as outlaws, being refused other than an unofficial reception, although the refuser then had his own son at their capital, receiving official recognition for the benefit of our citizens, sojourners there; and the Secretary of State hastened to advise the cold shoulder he had given the envoys, in order that his London friends might reasonably know of his good services, and the President consoled the suppliants for their chilly reception by showing them the fine view from the portico of the White House. No effort was spared to keep the sympathetic heart-beat of the American people from their ear.

This is not the Republicanism of the heroic age of the party. The Republican party of 1856 addressed its appeal to the conscience, to the reason, to the judgment of the people. The Republican party of today is wholly intolerant of criticism or discussion of partisan measures within its own ranks, and any dissent from them is promptly stigmatized as treason,—not indeed to the nation, nor even to the party, but to the men who control it; so that all independence of thought is stifled and all many expression of opinion is dragged into a cowed and discreet silence.

That party in any early day, and to its everlasting honor, offered a lawful and temperate opposition to a decree of the Supreme Court, which was wholly extra-judicial, and which, by denying to a race of men the common rights of nature, caused all Christendom to cry out against the barbarity of its judgment. Now it is a cardinal doctrine of the organization which is to convene at Philadelphia that the most absurd and tyrannical deliverances of the most untoward and irresponsible judicial accidents shall be treated as inerrant, and that an intelligent criticism of them is to be hooted down as anarchy and contempt.

The Republican party of its early history was, above all things else, a party of the people. It was organized to voice the protests of the many against the aggressions of the few. It found the government in the hands of a compact organization, insignificant in numbers, and not respectable in political methods, but who held a part of their fellow men as slaves, and made the rest of the people slave catchers. It was, in more modern language, a gigantic trust of land and labor, which undertook to monopolize and control that product of God's earth of which the world was supposed to stand most in need, and which was therefore denominated "king." To the overthrow of this soulless and conscienceless oligarchy the party addressed itself, and its history throughout that long struggle was God-like. At this day it is a trust of one trust, but of many trusts, which, in a greater or a less degree, monopolize and withhold from man nearly all of God's gifts to him, exacting an unearned and unmetted tribute for their enjoyment, and usurping the constitutional power of taxing the people. At the last session of Congress it passed a law which created a monopoly of the circulating medium of the people, and so put into the hands of the few the most unconscionable weapon of oppression over the thrift of the country, which human sagacity, backed by unscrupulous power, could manipulate; and for thus bartering away the rights of the producing and earning masses, it expects to be perpetuated in power. This law it passed early and easily. When the last days of the session were here, at a time when it was known that no legislation could pass for want of time for intelligent debate, it proposed the farce of a constitutional amendment which asked the states simply to abdicate all control over their industrial creatures and go out of the governing business. To this proposition all right of amendment was denied, and, upon its merits, the purpose of deceiving the people, was, if not avowed, at least not denied. At the same time an amendment to make effectual an anti-trust law already on the statute book was not allowed to come to a vote in the Senate, as trust attorneys from a trust state was at the head of the department of justice, and trust lawyers all over the country were appointed, charged with the duty of prosecuting trusts. The Philadelphia convention will loudly denounce trusts,—on paper

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Facing the Future.

There comes a time to most women when they must face the future of widowhood and motherhood. What that future has in store for them depends largely upon themselves. To a healthy woman the obligations and consequences of marriage are a lasting happiness. To a woman suffering from irregularity or other ailments of the sex, marriage may prove a mockery and motherhood a misery. Where such irregularity exists Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription can be used with the assurance that health will speedily be restored. It is the most reliable medicine known to medical science for the cure of diseases which affect the delicate womanly organs.



scription" is a non-alcoholic medicine and is also free from opium cocaine and other narcotics.

"At an early stage of married life," writes Mrs. Flora Ann, of Dallas, Jackson Co., Mo., "I was greatly bothered with painful periods, also a troublesome drain which rendered every week and month a time of suffering. I became so thin there was nothing left of me but skin and bone. My husband became alarmed and got me a bottle of 'Favorite Prescription.' After he saw the wonderful effects of that one bottle he saw me more, and after I used those up there was no more pain, and I gained in flesh very rapidly. I owe all praise to Dr. Pierce and his wonderful curative medicines."

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser sent free on receipt of stamps to pay cost of mailing only. Send at once-cent stamps for book in paper covers, or 31 stamps in cloth to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

can party is and for some time has been, in complete control of all branches of our government. It has the POWER, therefore, to advance the remedy and to make that amendment a living letter instead of a sealed book, and to right the enormous wrong now being perpetrated against the suffrage in several of the states of this Union. From a constitutional and ancient Republican point of view, this crime against the ballot is the master grievance of the age, and beside which, as a matter of fidelity to party and party principles, every other question and all other offenses are dwindled into insignificance. But I am safe in saying that the Philadelphia convention, to which you invite me, will do nothing, and say nothing, to cure this abominable evil. If a pledge to repeal or to emasculate the amendment could be hopefully used as a trap to catch a single Southern electoral vote, I venture to predict it would be forthcoming. The past record of the party imposes the duty upon that convention to make good its early pledges by making some deliverance on the subject. It makes another reason why I cannot attend that convention that this implied promise is to be ruthlessly and contemptuously broken.

I might enumerate other points in which the old convention and the new are repugnant to each other in matter of substance and principle, so that to countenance by my attendance the latter would be to stultify myself as a member of the former. But these, I conceive, are enough.

The last words spoken by my illustrious and patriotic namesake, Algon Sidney, as he laid his head upon the block on Tower Hill, was to thank his Maker for the opportunity for saying a final word "for that Old Cause in which I was from my youth engaged,"—"the 'Old Cause,' as he pathetically called the cause of Constitutional Liberty.

I too, am grateful that I have been spared thus to bear witness to this same end.

Very sincerely yours,

SIDNEY EDGERTON,

Hon. M. A. Hanna, Cleveland, O.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on every box. 25c

Gain in Norton.

The assessor for East Norton has filed his report. Last year the tax value of personal property was \$83,330. This year it is \$88,150, a gain of \$4,770!

Fair and Beautiful Faces

Impure blood is sure to cause pimples and roughness of the skin. Dr. Warner's Compound of Seven Cures, the great blood renewer, makes a rough skin smooth and fair. Retail all druggists. Wholesale E. Steinbacher & Co.

me From Cleveland

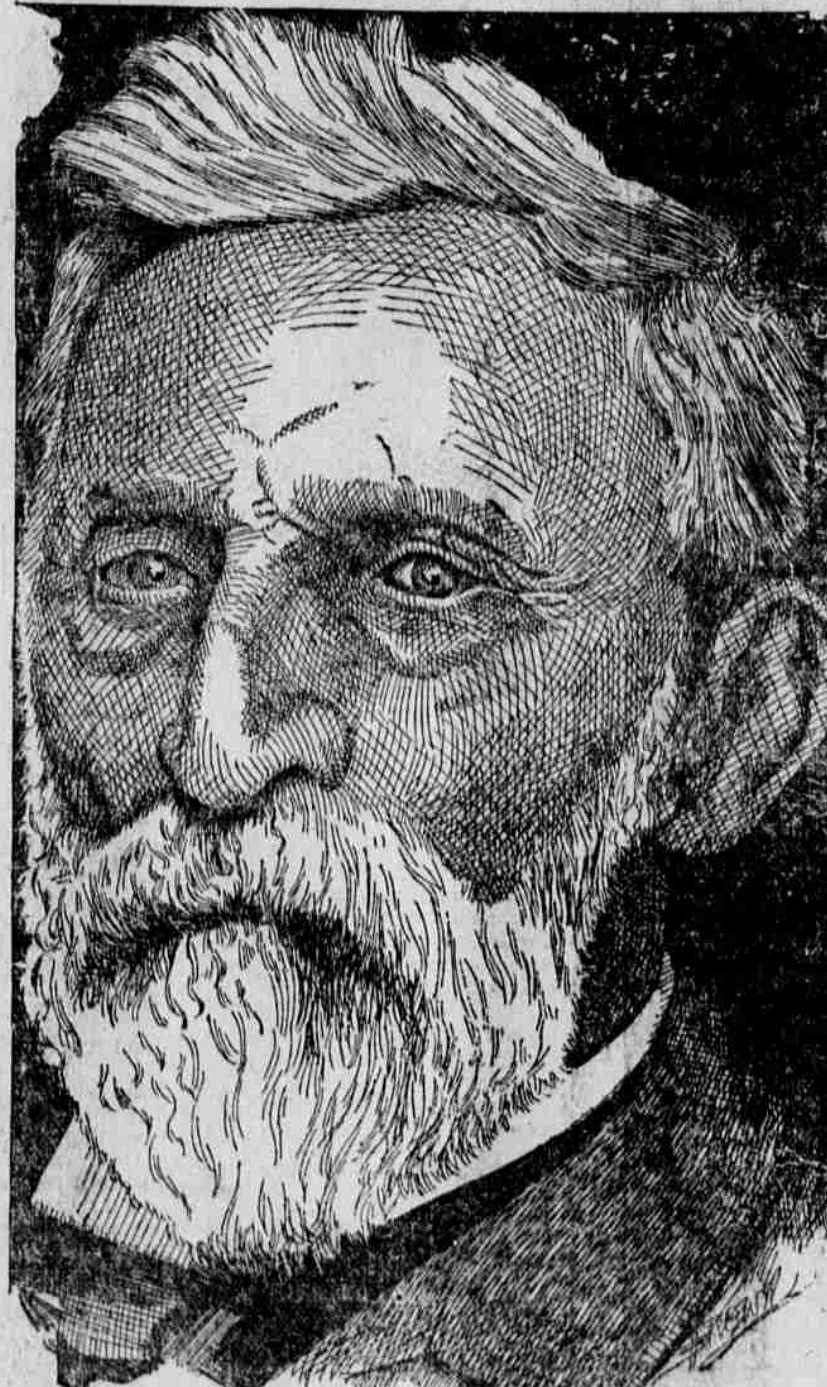
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GRAIN-O

THE FOOD DRINK

Grain-O is not a stimulant, like coffee. It is a tonic and its effects are permanent. A successful substitute for coffee, because it has the coffee flavor that almost everybody likes. Lots of coffee substitutes in the market, but only one food drink—Grain-O.

All groceries 15c and 30c.



Ex-Governor SIDNEY EDGERTON.

territories those twin relics of barbarism, polygamy and slavery." The Republican party of that time, in obedience to this mandate, and improving the opportunity created by the great Civil war, did far more. At a cost in blood and treasure beyond computation, it emancipated a race, and secured the adoption of an amendment to our constitution which forever prohibits slavery or involuntary servitude, except upon due conviction of crime, in all places "within the United States, or subject to their jurisdiction." In like manner it by lawful means extirpated polygamy within our borders. The Philadelphia convention which you ask me to attend will, by its platform, approve the work of an Administration which, claiming to have subdued the Sultanate of Sulu, nevertheless is in treaty with his Sultan, whereby it guarantees the integrity of his dominions, and promises to protect him in maintaining his slave harem and his harem of wives. And not only has it thus given him immunity for his breach of our organic and statute law, but it has put a premium upon "those twin relics of barbarism" by paying him a year's stipend for continuing to be a lawbreaker. And by way of sarcasm on your campaign cry of 1896, it pays him the bounty in those shameful and utterly

to import labor into the harbor of New York.

The Philadelphia convention of 1856 contained this resolution: "Resolved, That the highwayman's plea that 'might makes right,' embodied in the Ostend Circular, was in every respect unworthy of American diplomacy, and would bring shame and dishonor upon any government or people who gave it their sanction." The facts behind the "Ostend Circular" are familiar to every student of history, and I need not repeat them. It is equally patent that the policy "embodied in the Ostend Circular" and that now being pursued by our National Administration in regard to the Philippine Islands,—and probably in regard to Cuba also, differ from one another in no essential respect, and a simple man would think that both should fall under the same condemnation. But it is quite safe to say that the latter will, at the convention to which you have invited me, be as vigorously applauded as the former was repudiated at the convention of four and forty years ago. How can I, then, if I would keep the political faith of 1856, attend upon or approve the work which the Philadelphia convention of this year has marked out for it, and which it will most obsequiously perform? It would be an inconsistency so gross

most selfish of nations is nauseating.

The Republican party of that early day, and long afterwards, was upon every consideration, the friend of the oppressed and down-trodden everywhere. And it so went on record time and again. In the convention of this year there will be no word of rebuke heard for the course of an Administration which has stood calmly and coldly by, in sight of the death struggles of two republics in another hemisphere, crushed beneath the blows of armaments too overwhelming for hope of resistance. We all the while uttering no word of cheer, and tendering in the meantime no good offices looking to an honorable peace, which, by the express terms of The Hague convention we would have been warranted in doing without giving any just cause of offense to either belligerent. On the contrary, it is too notorious for controversy that our government not only had no good offices to tender,—being itself engaged in a like enterprise elsewhere, but it resolutely suppressed, to the measure of its ability, all public expression of sympathy with the South African republics in their mortal agonies. The newspaper oracles of the Administration were as dumb as oysters, in strange contrast to their effusiveness when reaching